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General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 117 (a) and (b)
Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments; human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

Letter dated 17 November 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 9 October 2003 (A/58/429-S/2003/982), I have the honour to bring to your attention additional information concerning the persecution of the press by Turkish forces in the occupied part of Cyprus, which reveals the Turkish military's involvement in the daily lives of Turkish Cypriots and its efforts to curb the will of the Turkish Cypriot community.

The issue of oppression of the press in the occupied area has, on many occasions, been raised in our letters to you, and particular concern was expressed about the attacks against the Turkish Cypriot daily *Afrika* and its reporters. The courage to challenge with their pens the policies of Ankara and Mr. Denktash on the Cyprus problem is the one and only crime of those persecuted by the Turkish Army and the occupying regime in Cyprus. Protestations and representations against this unacceptable policy, which violates the fundamental freedoms and liberties of Turkish Cypriots, continue to be made from many quarters around the world as well as by many prestigious international press associations and human rights defenders.

Unfortunately, instead of listening to the increasing calls by Turkish Cypriots for a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus problem and for reunification, Turkey and the illegal regime have escalated their policy of intimidation and harassment against the Turkish Cypriot press. It is evident that acts of persecution of the press have recently increased in the light of the massive demonstrations by Turkish Cypriots demanding a change in the anachronistic policy of Turkey in Cyprus, and because of the increasing number of editorials and articles criticizing Turkey and Mr. Denktash for their irrational and divisive policies with regard to the solution of the problem and accession to the European Union.

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As it was reported in the Turkish Cypriot press, upon complaint by the Turkish Army, a "persecution operation" was launched in occupied Cyprus (*Cyprus Alternative News* at www.hamamboculeri.com) against journalists and editors. The following cases of journalists against whom charges were filed on 3 and 4 November 2003 are indicative of the above-mentioned situation:

(a) On 3 November 2003, a case was brought against Basaran Duzgun, Editor of the daily newspaper, *KIBRIS*, about an article he wrote entitled "Whose guarantor" (*Kimin Garantoru*) published on 27 March 2003. Charges were filed against him for "insulting and undermining the abstract personality of Security Forces Commandership" and the so-called "prosecutor" called for 10 years' imprisonment. Mr. Duzgun is to be tried in military court;

(b) On 3 November 2003, a case was brought against Hasan Hasturer, a columnist at *KIBRIS*, about an article he wrote on 26 March 2003. Hasan Hasturer will be tried for "creating hatred against the state with destructive intent and undermining the state as well as undermining, insulting and creating hatred against officers of Turkey". The illegal regime is asking for a total of 11 years' imprisonment;

(c) On 4 November 2003, a case was brought against Suleyman Erguclu, General Editor of *KIBRIS*, for publishing those articles;

(d) On 4 November 2003, a case was brought against Hasan Kahvecioglu, a columnist at the daily newspaper, *ORTAM*, about an article he had written. Mr. Kahvecioglu is being accused of "insulting the abstract personality of Security Forces Commandership". The "prosecutor" asked for 11 years in jail and Mr. Kahvecioglu will be tried in military court;

(e) On 4 November 2003, a case was brought against Mehmet Davulcu, General Editor of *ORTAM*, for being the person responsible for the newspaper that published the above-mentioned article.

In view of the above-mentioned oppressive policy by the Turkish occupation forces and the illegal regime in the occupied area of Cyprus, we appeal to you, as the leader of an organization that places protection of human rights at the centre of its agenda, to impress upon the Turkish Government the need to terminate the persecution of the press and respect the fundamental right of freedom of speech of the Turkish Cypriot community.

It would be very much appreciated if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council and of the General Assembly, under agenda item 117 (a) and (b).

(*Signed*) Andreas D. **Mavroyiannis**

United Nations A/58/604

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 120
Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the second report of the Secretary-General on the performance of the programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/58/558 and Add.1). During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General who provided it with additional information and clarification.

Financial performance for the biennium 2002-2003

2. As in the past, the report of the Secretary-General covers only financial aspects of performance. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls its previous view on programme and financial performance (A/58/7, para. 18):

> "**The Advisory Committee is of the opinion that the current practice of reporting on programme and financial performance separately and on separate cycles needs to be reformed to make it consistent with and supportive of result-based budgeting. The Committee therefore recommends that a single report be issued that would cover both programme and financial performance for the same period. Such reports should be available for use during the formulation and consideration of the proposed programme budget. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the first trial report be produced in time for submission to the General Assembly at the first part of its fifty-ninth session.**"

3. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that a report of the Secretary-General on programme and financial performance for the biennium 2002-2003 that would be consistent with and supportive of results-based budgeting would be submitted through the Committee for Programme and Coordination to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

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4. The anticipated final level of expenditures and income for the biennium 2002-2003 is based on actual expenditures for the first 20 months, projected requirements for the last 4 months and changes in inflation and exchange rates and cost-of-living adjustments as compared with the assumptions made in the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/57/616). The Advisory Committee recalls that, in 1997, it had recommended that the Secretariat should attempt to base performance reporting on actual expenditures for the first 21 months (see A/52/742, para. 10). The recommendation was subsequently reiterated in the eighth report of the Committee to the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly (A/54/7/Add.7, para. 4). **The Advisory Committee requests that information be provided to the Fifth Committee as to how the Secretariat intends to implement the Committee's recommendation.**

5. The Advisory Committee notes that the anticipated final level of expenditures and of income for the biennium represents a net increase of $49.6 million compared with the revised appropriations and estimates of income approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 57/293 of 20 December 2002 and 57/311 of 18 June 2003. The projected expenditure for the biennium 2002-2003 is estimated at $2,953.9 million gross, an increase of $62.8 million compared with the revised appropriation of $2,891.1 million for the biennium. The projected income is estimated at $427.6 million, an increase of $13.2 million compared with the revised income estimates of $414.4 million for the biennium.

6. The net increase of $49.6 million reflects the combined effects of: (a) projected additional requirements of $86.5 million due to changes in exchange rates ($59.1 million), changes in inflation ($7.7 million), commitments entered into in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 56/256 of 24 December 2001 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses and in respect of the requirements for conference and support servicing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee ($19.7 million) and (b) reduced requirements of $36.9 million due to variations in post costs and adjustments to other objects of expenditure, based on actual anticipated requirements ($23.7 million) and an increase in income ($13.2 million).

7. Explanations regarding the additional requirements relating to changes in exchange rates ($59.1 million) and changes in inflation ($7.7 million) are given in the performance report (A/58/558, paras. 6-12), as are details regarding the assumed and actual rates of exchange (ibid., schedules 4 and 5) as well as information on changes in exchange rates and inflation by duty station (ibid., table 4).

8. The Advisory Committee notes from the report (ibid., para. 7) that, in estimating the effect of exchange rate changes experienced in 2003, the realized exchange rates from January to October 2003 were used, with the October rate applied to November and December. Moreover, the Committee notes that, consistent with approved methodology, the average 2002 rates of exchange, which allowed for the lowest estimates, were used in calculating the revised appropriation for 2003 for the first performance report for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/57/616). The experience of 2003 in respect of the Swiss franc and the euro has been a continuation of the downward trend from the rates in effect at the end of 2002. Therefore, the projection of an average has not been borne out by actual experience in 2003, thus resulting in the need to significantly adjust resource requirements.

9. Detailed information on the total additional requirements of $19.7 million relating to commitments entered into in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 56/256 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses is contained in the report (A/58/558, paras. 16-22) With regard to additional requirements of $923,300 under section 7, International Court of Justice (see A/58/558, para. 16 (c)), the Advisory Committee notes that the reported requirements of $607,400 for pension, travel and removal expenses of retiring judges and installation grants exceed, by $197,400, the commitments ($410,000) authorized under the terms of paragraph 1 (b) (iv) of General Assembly resolution 56/256. **The Advisory Committee requests that the Secretariat review whether the amount of $410,000 for such commitments currently authorized under the terms of paragraph 1 (b) (iv) of General Assembly resolution 56/256 is adequate and, if necessary, propose the required adjustment.**

10. Information on the projected reduced requirements of $23.7 million in post incumbency and other changes is provided in the performance report (A/58/588, paras. 23-43, and schedules 1-3 and 6 and 8). The realized vacancy rate for the Professional category and above was 6.2 per cent, lower than the approved budgeted rate of 6.5 per cent, while the realized vacancy rate for the General Service category was 3.4 per cent, higher than the approved budgeted rate of 3.1 per cent (A/58/558, para. 26).

11. The average realized vacancy rates for the Professional category and above in several budget sections (5, 16, 19 and 22) were above budgeted levels, reflecting, inter alia, delays in recruitment, appointment and/or promotion to posts, separations, and temporary placement of staff against posts at a higher level (A/58/558, para. 28). **The Advisory Committee notes with concern that, under section 16, Economic Commission for Africa, the vacancy rates for the Professional category continue to be exceptionally high. The Committee is of the view that special measures should be taken on an urgent basis to address the problem of the persistent high vacancy rates at the Economic Commission for Africa.**

12. The Advisory Committee notes that, in response to its previous recommendation, the performance report indicates the amount of unliquidated obligations included in estimated expenditures for the biennium (A/58/558, para. 44). **The Advisory Committee welcomes the fact that unliquidated obligations for the biennium 2002-2003 of $99.7 million are significantly lower, compared with the amount reported as at the end of September 2001 ($161.7 million).**

13. No indication is provided in the report of any savings resulting from efficiency measures that could have been transferred to the Development Account in accordance with established procedures. **The Advisory Committee requests that this information be provided to the Fifth Committee.**

14. Schedule 3 of the performance report provides a summary of projected expenditures for each budget section by object of expenditure and main determining factor, including travel estimates. **The Advisory Committee notes, however, that the report does not separately indicate variances in travel expenses relating to travel of representatives and travel of staff, although the Committee had recommended that this information should be included in future performance reports (see A/56/694, para. 13). The Committee requests that the Secretariat provide this information to the Fifth Committee.**

Review of the United Nations Postal Administration

15. The General Assembly, in section VI of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, noted with deep concern the serious and continuing deterioration in the business of the United Nations Postal Administration and requested the Secretary-General to ensure, as a matter of priority, that the downward trend in the business of the Postal Administration be reversed, considering all possible courses of action for the future conduct of its business, and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the second performance report for the biennium 2002-2003. Information on review of the Postal Administration is contained in the addendum to the Secretary-General's second performance report (A/58/558/Add.1).

16. According to the Secretary-General, a comprehensive review of the operations of the Postal Administration has been undertaken, with the involvement of an outside consultant specializing in philatelic market operations, and a number of recommendations stemming from the review have been or are currently in the process of being implemented. The report contains information on problem analysis measures taken to improve operations (A/58/558/Add.1, paras. 8-21).

17. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 23 of the report that initiatives taken to reverse the downward trend in the revenues of the Postal Administration have already shown encouraging results: the operations have been streamlined; the organizational structure is now simpler and more effective; and it is estimated that the negative financial trends of 2002 will be turned around and the Postal Administration will achieve a modest surplus of $189,000 in the current biennium.

18. The Advisory Committee further notes there is a proposal in the report (A/58/558/Add.1, para. 24) to change the present arrangements whereby net surplus from the revenue-producing activities under Income section 3, Services to the public, is used to help offset the expenditure part of the regular budget. According to the proposal, the surplus would be credited to a reserve fund to be established effective as from the biennium 2004-2005. The proposal, if accepted, would require that the General Assembly grant an exception to financial rule 103.7. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the size of such a reserve fund has not yet been accurately determined.

19. According to the Secretariat, the surplus accumulated in the reserve fund would be used to meet contingent liability of the Postal Administration. The issue of the contingent liability of the Postal Administration is explained in the Secretary-General's report (A/58/558/Add.1, paras. 10 and 11). The Secretariat indicates that while, in the past, only a small percentage of United Nations stamps sold were actually used for postage by customers, the percentage of postage charges paid to the United States Postal Service of the gross stamp sale revenue increased from 6 per cent in 1980 to 18 per cent in 2002; more importantly, the United Nations is now incurring expenditures for products sold in past periods for which the accounts have been closed. The Advisory Committee sought information on the estimated amount of contingent liability and was informed that no accurate estimates were available at this stage. However, the estimates would be provided to the Advisory Committee and to the Fifth Committee as soon as they become available.

20. The Advisory Committee was informed that negotiations are under way between the United Nations Postal Administration and the postal authorities of the United States of America, Switzerland and Austria, with a view to obtaining more

favourable agreements that may also positively impact on contingent liabilities of the Postal Administration. **The Advisory Committee encourages the administration to take further efforts to achieve success in these negotiations.**

21. **In the meantime, the Advisory Committee recommends that the current arrangements for accounting for the sale of United Nations stamps be continued.**

Status of work in the implementation of measures to strengthen the security and safety of United Nations premises

22. Information on the status of work in the implementation of measures to strengthen the security and safety of United Nations premises summarizes the work undertaken and/or planned by the Secretariat during 2003. Earlier, information on progress in the implementation of those measures during 2002 and the status of expenditures as of 31 October 2002 was included in the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/57/616).

23. The Advisory Committee was informed that the Secretary-General is currently considering what additional measures need to be taken to improve the security and safety of United Nations premises and its personnel. According to the Secretariat, a report on such measures, with the indication of all additional requirements for the biennium 2004-2005, will be submitted to the resumed session of the Fifth Committee in the spring of 2004. The Committee intends to present its comments and recommendations on the issue of security and safety of United Nations premises and personnel in the context of its review of the forthcoming report of the Secretary-General.

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Agenda items 131 and 132

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Second performance report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2002-2003

Second performance report of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2002-2003

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (A/58/593) and of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (A/58/597). During its consideration of the reports, the Advisory Committee met with the representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information.

03-62271 (E) 201103

I. International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

2. By its resolution 57/288 of 20 December 2002, the General Assembly approved a revised appropriation for the biennium 2002-2003 of $262,653,700 gross ($235,955,000 net) for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.

3. Information on trial activity during the biennium 2002-2003 is contained in annex II to the report (A/58/593). The Advisory Committee notes that the Tribunal estimates the number of court sessions for the biennium 2002-2003 at 3,402, compared with the initial estimate of 4,656, owing to the statutory time frames of the rules of procedure and evidence as well as factors beyond its control. Moreover, two of the three additional ad litem judges joined the Tribunals as from April 2002, and a maximum of five trials were conducted during the first three months of the year instead of the six initially envisaged and currently conducted.

4. As indicated in table 1 of the performance report, expenditures for the period are estimated at $288,322,200 gross ($254,603,800 net), reflecting additional requirements of $25,668,500 gross ($18,803,200 net).

5. The Advisory Committee notes that most of the increase ($25,069,200) is the result of changes with respect to exchange rates resulting from the weakening of the United States dollar vis-à-vis the euro ($21,284,600) and inflation ($3,784,600) (see ibid., para. 4). The budgetary parameters used for the revised and the proposed final appropriation are indicated in annex I to the report.

6. The remainder of the increase ($599,300) is shown in table 2 under post incumbency and other changes. The Advisory Committee notes the overexpenditures indicated under posts ($8,891,700) and under staff assessment ($5,905,700). The changes under posts are related to vacancy rates and salary standards (see ibid., paras. 7 and 12). A total of 33 and 57 new posts were established in the Office of the Prosecutor and the Registry respectively, using vacancy rates of 50 per cent for new Professional posts and 40 per cent for new General Service posts. However, the posts were filled by July and the second half of 2002 respectively, creating an impact on the requirements for salary and common staff costs. As to the salary standards, the common staff cost rate was also higher than budgeted. The increase in post requirements is consequently reflected under staff assessment, offset by an equal amount under income from staff assessment.

7. Those increases are offset by decreases under other staff costs ($4,410,300), travel ($2,836,200), contractual services ($4,958,100) and general operating expenses ($2,805,900). The decrease under other staff costs ($4,410,300) is the net result of savings under mission subsistence allowance as a result of fewer than anticipated personnel stationed in the field ($1,106,600 for the Office of the Prosecutor and $927,300 for the Registry) and under temporary assistance for meetings in the Registry ($3,399,900) in view of a lower than anticipated level of trial activity and savings projected under French reporting services (see ibid., paras. 14-16). These are offset by additional requirements under general temporary assistance ($1,013,900) for the Registry (see ibid., para. 18).

8. The Advisory Committee requested information regarding the liabilities arising from an appeal lodged by staff that resulted in retroactive payments (see ibid.). The Committee was informed that those liabilities related to 90 Professional staff formerly recruited as local staff under general temporary assistance who

claimed international entitlements. Having won their appeal, the staff received entitlements valued at $1,100,100. The Committee requested additional information in this regard, which should be provided to the Fifth Committee. As to the additional requirement in relation to the judicial database project, the Committee was informed that it amounted to $500,000 and that it had not been foreseen at the time of the preparation of the budget. Information requested in writing as to the status of the project should also be provided to the Fifth Committee.

9. An amount of $954,100 is indicated in table 2 under furniture and equipment related to data-processing equipment and software, audio-visual equipment, security and safety equipment and communications equipment (see ibid., para. 29). **The Advisory Committee is aware that the changes related to rates of exchange and inflation could not have been anticipated. However, it is of the opinion that some of these other items, such as the judicial database project or the furniture and equipment needs, could have been better planned or foreseen, and thus better budgeted for. In addition, expenditures should be more closely monitored.**

10. The decrease in travel of $2,836,200 is due mostly to savings amounting to $2,127,100 in the Office of the Prosecutor, resulting from the reassignment of investigators to trial work, making them unable to carry out projected investigation missions, as well as a shorter average duration for missions and lower travel costs than were initially assumed in the budget (see ibid., para. 10).

11. The decrease in general operating expenses ($2,805,900) is due mostly to reductions under rental of premises ($1,271,100) (see ibid., paras. 22-23), and the decrease under contractual services ($4,958,100) is mostly the result of lower requirements for defence counsel ($4,651,000) due to a reduced number of detainees and the application of the revised payment system adopted in July 2002 (see ibid., para. 21). The information requested by the Advisory Committee regarding the breakdown of this amount should be provided to the Fifth Committee.

12. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that unliquidated obligations, as at 30 September 2003, amounted to $14,520,000. The Committee notes, however, that those amounts could change in view of the impact of changes in the rate of exchange at the time of their disbursement in future.

13. **The action to be taken by the General Assembly is indicated in section III of the report. The Advisory Committee recommends that the appropriation for the biennium 2002-2003 for the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia be revised in the amount of $288,322,200 gross ($254,603,800 net).**

II. International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

14. By its resolution 57/289 of 20 December 2002, the General Assembly appropriated a revised amount of $203,962,600 gross ($182,872,700 net) for the biennium 2002-2003. Information on the trial activities of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda during the biennium 2002-2003 is provided in annex II to the report (A/58/597).

15. As indicated in table 1 of the report, the estimated level of resources, based on actual expenditures for the first 20 months of the biennium and projected

requirements for the last 4 months, is $208,479,700 gross ($187,262,900 net) for the biennium 2002-2003, reflecting additional requirements of $4,517,100 gross ($4,392,200 net). The total resources include requirements related to the appointment by the Security Council in its resolution 1503 (2003) of a new Prosecutor for the Tribunal, effective 15 September 2003 (see ibid., paras. 8 and 15).

16. The Advisory Committee notes from table 2 that the resource growth is the result of the impact of changes in inflation (additional requirements of $11,483,200), offset by a favourable rate of exchange of the United States dollar against the Tanzanian shilling and the Rwanda franc (savings of $3,983,600), and savings under post incumbency and other changes ($2,982,500). The budgetary parameters, related to rates of exchange, inflation and post adjustment multipliers, used in formulating the revised budget and the final budget are indicated in annex I to the report.

17. As to the net savings under post incumbency and other changes, the Advisory Committee notes the reduced requirements of $4,415,500 under posts. The decrease is the result of higher than expected vacancy rates. The Committee recalls that the budgetary assumptions included a vacancy rate of 18 per cent for Professional staff and 12 per cent for staff in the General Service category. For the Office of the Prosecutor they are 19 per cent for Professional and 17 per cent for General Service staff during 2002, and 18 per cent for Professional and 14 per cent for General Service staff from January to August 2003. For the Registry they are 20 per cent for Professional and 13 per cent for General Service staff during 2002, and 18 per cent for Professional and 11 per cent for General Service staff from January to August 2003 (see ibid., paras. 7 and 13).

18. The net increase of $2,325,300 under contractual services reflects the additional requirements for defence counsel fees ($2,380,800) in view of more hours required than initially anticipated in relation to the *Butare* and *Military I* cases.

19. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that unliquidated obligations, as at 30 September 2003, amounted to $9,400,000 (see also para. 12 above).

20. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve the revised appropriation of $208,479,700 gross ($187,262,900 net) for the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2002-2003.**

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Agenda items 73 (f) and (i) and 80

General and complete disarmament: promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation; national legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Letter dated 14 November 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 2 October 2003, a United States official, Roger Noriega, Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, confirmed to a hearing of the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee the Bush Administration's policy of growing hostility and aggression towards Cuba, announced a new plan of subversive activity against our country and reiterated the cynical accusations to the effect that Cuba is developing a limited programme of biological weapons.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba, issued on 5 October 2003, totally rejecting the unfounded accusations and new threats voiced by Roger Noriega.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 73 (f), 73 (i) and 80.

(*Signed*) Bruno **Rodríguez Parrilla**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-62309 (E) 211103 211103

Annex to the letter dated 14 November 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

On 2 October 2003, Roger Noriega, Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, confirmed to a hearing of the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee the Bush Administration's policy of increasing hostility and aggression against Cuba. He announced a new plan of subversive activities against our country and reiterated the cynical accusations to the effect that Cuba is developing a limited biological weapons programme.

Mr. Noriega, we recall, was adviser to the ultra-reactionary Senator Jesse Helms and, together with the Miami terrorist mafia, one of the coordinators of the drafting of the infamous Helms-Burton Act. He has evidently followed the path of his predecessor, Mr. Otto Reich, to become the main spokesperson for the anti-Cuban policy as well as being the architect of United States interference in Venezuela's Bolivarian revolution.

In his impudent statements, Noriega announced that the United States Administration is going to intensify its efforts to increase subversion and propaganda against Cuba; increase international pressure against our country; check that blockade restrictions are strictly adhered to, including travel restrictions and measures against foreign business people investing in Cuba; and is threatening to take new actions against Cuban diplomats in the United States.

While totally rejecting these new imperial threats by Mr. Noriega, Cuba once again denounces the plans of the Bush Administration aimed at pleasing the Cuban-American extreme right wing which is increasing its pressure and intensifying its electoral blackmail as the 2004 presidential elections approach.

Mr. Noriega suffers from stupid arrogance and acts like a fanatical member of the Miami terrorist groups obsessed with the destruction of the Cuban Revolution.

Once more, this individual has shamefully lied in order to try to link Cuba with bioterrorism. It is evident that he has learnt nothing from the ridiculous antics of his colleagues John Bolton, Dan Fisk and Otto Reich. As before, Cuba is calling on the United States Administration to demonstrate that it is not shamefully lying and to present a modicum of evidence to back up these mendacious accusations that our country is developing biological weapons. Such cynical lies deserve contempt and we warn them in advance that we are not in the least frightened.

It is disgraceful that senior United States Government officials have to lie before Congress in order to justify their discredited anti-Cuban policy.

It is not worth wasting time over Mr. Noriega's fallacious charlatanism. Not one single person in Cuba is going to lose sleep over his repugnant statements and threats. They should be aware beforehand how costly any aggression against Cuba will be.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Havana, 5 October 2003

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Agenda items 12, 60 and 100

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Globalization and interdependence

Letter dated 18 November 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, adopted at the Thirteenth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, which was held on 14 and 15 November 2003 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly under agenda items 12, 60 and 100.

(*Signed*) Ernesto Aranibar **Quiroga**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-62729 (E) 021203 031203

Annex to the letter dated 18 November 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Thirteenth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government
Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra

14 and 15 November 2003

"Social inclusion, engine for development of the Ibero-American community"

1. We, the heads of State and Government of the 21 Ibero-American countries, convened in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, as the Thirteenth Ibero-American Summit, reiterate our desire to continue to strengthen the inter-American community of nations as a forum for dialogue, cooperation and policy coordination by deepening the historical and cultural ties that bind us while respecting the specific characteristics of each of our many identities, which allow us to accept our unity in diversity.

2. We recognize that poverty reduction is essential to the promotion and strengthening of democracy and that it is a common, shared responsibility of our States and of the international community. We declare that poverty eradication requires the implementation of comprehensive policies established and developed by the State with the participation of all segments of society and that economic growth is a necessary, but not the only, condition for promoting a better quality of life, eradicating poverty and eliminating social exclusion.

3. We reaffirm our will to strengthen policies and strategies aimed at combating poverty and its root causes in order to establish the conditions for greater social inclusion, and we are convinced that greater exercise of citizens' rights, the promotion of equity and social justice, and full participation in decision-making on all national issues will be key factors in the development of our societies and the consolidation of democratic governance and stability.

4. We reaffirm our commitment to the purposes and principles of international law enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, respect for the sovereignty and legal equality of States, the principle of non-intervention, prohibition of the threat or use of force in international relations, respect for territorial integrity, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the protection and promotion of all human rights in order to address the issues on the international agenda of a globalized world. We call for an effective strengthening of multilateralism and of the role of the United Nations as a forum for resolving international disputes, maintaining international peace and security and promoting economic and social development throughout the world.

5. We reaffirm that the Security Council is the body with primary responsibility for international peacekeeping and security. We are in favour of the broad reform of this body so that it can operate in a democratic, effective and transparent manner. We also support the broad reform of the United Nations system, including strengthened functions for the General Assembly and the Secretariat.

6. We reiterate our vigorous rejection of unilateral, extraterritorial application of laws and measures which contravene international law and the freedom of world

markets, navigation and trade, and we therefore urge the Government of the United States of America to put an end to the application of the Helms-Burton Act.

7. We stress the importance of the establishment of the International Criminal Court as the body responsible for the investigation, prosecution and punishment of the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, which affect the entire international community. We note that distinguished Ibero-American jurists have been elected to the posts of judge and prosecutor for this Court, and we stress the importance of universal accession to and ratification of the Rome Statute.

8. We recognize that democracy, peace, justice, equity and sustainable development are closely related, mutually reinforcing concepts. In that regard, we reiterate our commitment to the strengthening of democracy, maintenance of the rule of law, protection and promotion of human rights, recognition of and respect for individual identity and the exercise of cultural diversity, and the right of each State to build its political system and institutions freely, without outside interference and in peace, stability and justice.

9. We also stress the importance of taking measures aimed at overcoming the socio-economic conditions of poverty and exclusion, which offer fertile ground for social and political unrest.

10. We reaffirm our conviction that the essential elements of democracy, independence and the balance of powers are: effective representation of majorities and minorities; freedom of expression, association and assembly; full access to information; and the holding of free, periodic, transparent elections on the basis of universal suffrage and by secret ballot as an expression of popular sovereignty, citizen involvement, social justice and equality.

11. We reiterate our determination to strengthen State institutions, ensure more effective, transparent public administration and promote the necessary mechanisms for greater participation by civil society in the decision-making process. The Ibero-American States will give public service reform policies a larger role in their governance agendas. In that connection, we undertake especially to increase the professionalism of the public service in accordance with the principles and guidelines of the Ibero-American Charter for the Public Service, which was adopted by the Fifth Ibero-American Conference of Ministers for Public Administration and State Reform, held on 26 and 27 June 2003 in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia.

12. We reaffirm our will to combat public and private sector corruption and impunity, which constitute one of the greatest threats to democratic governance. We reiterate the importance of international cooperation, including, where necessary, extradition proceedings, in effectively combating corruption in each country's legal procedures. Access to information in the possession of the State promotes transparency; it is an essential means of combating corruption and an indispensable condition for citizens' participation and the full enjoyment of human rights.

13. We declare our firm commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations with strict observance of international law, international standards for the protection of human rights and international humanitarian law. We are determined to strengthen our national legislation; to increase international cooperation in order to prevent, eliminate, combat and punish all terrorist acts, wherever and by whomever committed; and not to offer aid or refuge to those who commit, advocate or participate in terrorist activities, in accordance with the

relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council. We support the work of the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee in combating this scourge, which constitutes a serious threat to peace, democratic stability and the development of peoples.

14. We reaffirm our ongoing commitment to strengthening efforts to combat the global problem of drugs and drug-related crime through a comprehensive, balanced approach involving the establishment of international cooperation based on the principles of State sovereignty and mutual, shared responsibility. We also reiterate our commitment to continued cooperation in combating the various forms of transnational organized crime.

15. We note the positive social impact of alternative crop development programmes in rural communities. We recognize the importance of effective, supportive programmes aimed at providing substitutes for illegal crops in order to promote the social inclusion of the poorest rural population groups and of rural and indigenous workers, and we urge the international community to step up its support for such programmes and to provide access to international markets for the export products resulting from such programmes.

16. The world economic situation and the decline in financing for development and in multilateral cooperation have a significant impact on our societies. The problem is aggravated by the volatility of financial and capital flows; the falling prices of export commodities; the persistence of trade barriers and non-tariff measures which hinder exports; and the effect of such practices, which, like subsidies, distort trade. We also express our appreciation for the constructive treatment accorded to the issue of trade during the negotiations between Latin America and the European Union. The aforementioned problems have had a highly negative impact on the balance of payments, which was already seriously affected by the wide fluctuations in the price of export commodities.

17. We reiterate the importance of access to all markets for the exports of developing countries. We trust that through donors' fulfilment of the commitments made at the Monterrey Conference, official development assistance will speed up the renewed growth of the past two years and will thereby help ensure an adequate transfer of financial resources to the poorest regions of the world, including middle-income countries with high poverty levels, and to poverty reduction programmes and projects.

18. We affirm the duty to resolve in an effective, just and lasting manner the external debt problem which affects the countries of the region, bearing in mind that structural adjustment programmes should respect the principles of equity and social justice and the need to combat poverty, hunger and unemployment. In order to alleviate the debt burden through multilateral negotiations and initiatives, we urge the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank to strengthen mechanisms to prevent and resolve the financial crises which some Latin American economies are facing by evaluating, on a case-by-case basis and with the countries concerned, formulas to alleviate unsustainable debt burdens while respecting the principles of mutual responsibility, equity and the need to combat exclusion and, especially, while promoting strengthened democratic governance.

19. The unmet social needs of our peoples constitute a threat to democratic governance. In that connection, we recommend that the search for innovative financial mechanisms aimed at consolidating such governance and contributing to poverty eradication should be pursued.

20. We welcome with interest the proposal to establish an International Humanitarian Fund as a financing mechanism which would provide access to special funds that help mitigate the effects of poverty in developing countries.

21. We recognize the positive impact that progress of an institutional nature has had on poverty eradication in many countries; it has increased citizens' participation in the decision-making process, given the people greater access to justice and helped combat corruption. We also recognize, however, that in many cases the structural economic reforms carried out at such a high cost to our peoples and our Governments have not done enough to reduce inequalities and social exclusion and, in some cases, have even worsened these problems.

22. We are aware that social exclusion is a structural problem with deep historical, economic and cultural roots and that it cannot be overcome without a thorough transformation of our societies, which suffer from an unequal distribution of wealth. We recognize the urgent need to implement public policies aimed at reducing poverty and increasing the level of participation by citizens from all excluded sectors of the population in social policy-making, decision-making and the monitoring and supervision of financial resources allocated to the implementation of such policies, thereby giving them control of their own full development. By so doing, we will be able to give them access to land, jobs, a better quality of life, education, health, housing and other basic services.

23. We are certain that poverty cannot be eradicated through assistance programmes. Even when such programmes are a necessary stop-gap measure pending a genuine solution to the problem, society must not be allowed to develop a permanent split between those who work and those who receive assistance. We therefore propose to foster all necessary action to reduce the high unemployment rates which afflict our societies by generating conditions propitious to the development of business and productive investment and creating training and job-creation programmes to help unemployed persons find productive activities. We also reaffirm our conviction that decent work, as defined by the International Labour Organization (ILO), is the most effective instrument for improving our peoples' living conditions and helping them share the fruits of material and human progress.

24. We affirm our commitment to the continued implementation of supportive sustainable development policies with a view to the planned, equitable achievement of the goals of eradicating extreme poverty, providing basic services to the entire population, improving the quality of life, protecting the environment, ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources and changing unsustainable production and consumption patterns. We therefore urge the developed countries, cooperation agencies and multilateral financial institutions to strengthen their assistance to development programmes and projects which implement these policies.

25. We also acknowledge that the economic crisis affecting the majority of Ibero-American countries and unequal resource and income distribution are leading to a considerable impairment and increased vulnerability of the food security of large groups of our population, especially in rural areas; this has a significant impact on

human development and the sustainable development of the region. We therefore consider it necessary to create instruments designed to promote measures such as the extension of credit and to strengthen training and technical assistance programmes which will allow the people most seriously affected to formulate integrated, participatory agricultural production strategies in order to make them self-sustaining and to guarantee comprehensive rural development.

26. We reiterate that agriculture and a harmonious relationship between rural and urban areas are essential to the full development of our countries. We undertake to generate increased opportunity for improving human, social and institutional conditions and capacities for rural life by promoting investment and creating a favourable institutional environment for the sustainable development of agriculture and for the promotion of agroindustry and its contribution to social development, rural prosperity and food security.

27. In addition, we propose to continue to take emergency measures to assist families and individuals whose per capita income falls below the poverty line and to guarantee them food security. In that regard, we note with interest the creation of a global fund to fight hunger. The fund, established in the context of South-South cooperation, has already received donations from private companies and contributions from sponsoring countries and could benefit from a North-South dimension, with political support and financial donations from the developed countries.

28. We recognize the fundamental role that microenterprises play in the development of our countries by generating wealth and employment, facilitating economic decentralization and making it possible to integrate broad segments of the population into the national economy. We also recognize the role that cooperatives and community associations play in the development of an economy characterized by solidarity and social usefulness, by helping to create jobs, promoting greater social integration and enabling all segments of the population, in particular women, young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, to participate fully in national production. Therefore, in order to facilitate their development to the greatest extent possible, we commit ourselves to promoting the extension of microcredits, with due attention to gender equity.

29. We make the commitment to move forward in the formulation and implementation of regional policies to develop an infrastructure for regional physical integration, in view of its importance in reducing rates of poverty and social exclusion and increasing the level of participation and the interconnectedness of indigenous peoples. We also consider it necessary to give priority in regional policy in this regard to the specific needs and problems of the region's land-locked developing countries and the interior regions of transit countries. We appreciate the regional strategic importance of air transport to our countries and note that the Regional Air Transport Competitiveness Committee has begun functioning.

30. We recognize the need to develop a regional low-cost housing and human settlements programme oriented towards the poorest segments of society, with the aim of contributing in a substantive fashion to the efforts that our Governments are making through their national anti-poverty programmes; contributing to economic growth through the cross-sectoral linkages generated by construction activity; creating sources of income and employment for poor families; facilitating better governance; and helping to improve the critical environmental conditions now

prevailing in human settlements, thereby promoting sustainable development of the regional habitat.

31. We are aware of the importance of education as a social inclusion factor contributing to the eradication of poverty, the achievement of sustainable development and the building of prosperous and democratic societies. We reaffirm our commitment to reach the educational goals set forth in the Bariloche Declaration of 1995 and to promote a movement in favour of education. We also agree that our countries shall celebrate Ibero-American Education Day on 2 October.

32. We note the possibility of conducting technical studies and engaging in dialogue and joint negotiations with international organizations to explore the feasibility and means of implementing strategies, initiatives and mechanisms for converting foreign debt into investment in education, science and technology, depending on the interest of States, with the dual aim of reducing and alleviating our countries' debt burden while increasing real investment in those sectors, so critical to development.

33. We affirm that culture contributes to sustainable human development as a factor of social cohesion based on a holistic view of the human person that takes into account the multiplicity of human needs and aspirations. We recognize the wealth of our cultural diversity as a fundamental value of the Ibero-American community and stress the desirability of fully and freely promoting comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies that foster the production of cultural goods and services as sources of added value. The latter aspect should also be taken into account in present and future international trade negotiations.

34. Defending the rights and identity of the indigenous cultures of the Americas and of persons of African and other descent, which form a fundamental part of our societies, should be a permanent priority of our Governments, since such cultures make an essential contribution to the identity and development of the entire Ibero-American community. The full integration of those peoples into national life, based on the enjoyment of their cultures and their rights as citizens, is a common goal that can only be achieved through the development of interculturality.

35. In the conviction that culture can make a valuable contribution to social equity, we proclaim 2005 the Ibero-American Year of Reading and propose to unite the efforts of the public and private sectors to carry out the Ibero-American Reading Plan adopted at the Sixth Ibero-American Conference on Culture.

36. Health is a human right fundamental to sustainable development. The improvement of primary health care, the goal of health for all and by all, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and related targets and local health management capacity-building should become the basic strategic approaches to increasing social protection and achieving universal access to health. To that end, it is important to increase public investment in health, to utilize cooperative efforts among countries in the context of regional and subregional integration initiatives and to mobilize community support and international cooperation.

37. We declare that it is necessary for all our countries to make access to health care and social security systems equitable, universal and permanent and to focus our efforts on excluded sectors, with the aim of decreasing child and maternal mortality rates, preventing the spread of infectious and contagious diseases such as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), providing comprehensive primary health care

to the entire population and ensuring access to essential medications while respecting and promoting the customs and values inherent in each culture.

38. We also reaffirm our rejection of all forms of racial, social, religious or gender discrimination or discrimination based on sexual orientation, disability or other grounds. We consider it a matter of paramount importance to foster the fundamental role of the international and regional instruments on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to promote the cooperation of all countries in that regard.

39. In order to promote greater understanding and awareness of the issues related to persons with disabilities, mobilize support for ensuring their dignity, rights, well-being, full participation and equality of opportunity and strengthen the institutions and policies that benefit them, we proclaim 2004 the Ibero-American Year of Persons with Disabilities.

40. We recognize the economic and cultural contributions of migrants to the societies of their destination countries as well as to their communities of origin. We reiterate our commitment to achieve greater coordination and cooperation on the issue of migration and stress the importance of cooperation among the countries of origin, transit and destination to ensure full protection of the human and labour rights of migrants and their families and combat the illicit traffic in persons, which affects women and children in particular. In that regard we shall foster a wide-ranging dialogue among the countries of origin, transit and destination of migrants to facilitate proper management of migratory flows and the social integration of migrants. We also recognize the need to promote productive investment that creates jobs paying a decent wage in order to provide alternatives to the present migratory flows and eliminate the illegal traffic in persons. In addition, we shall promote cooperation mechanisms that simplify, accelerate and reduce the cost of the remittances that migrants send back to their countries of origin.

41. We also reiterate our commitment to combat the traffic in persons that affects women and children in particular by taking measures of prevention and victim protection that are in line with internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, ensuring, moreover, that return shall be voluntary, insofar as possible, and that the process shall provide for the security and dignity of the individual, in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951 and the Protocol thereto of 1967, and the principle of non-refoulement enshrined therein.

42. We recognize that women play a fundamental role in social transformation processes and are a key factor in the economic development of our peoples, and we note that they are still subject to various forms of discrimination, exclusion and violence in our societies. We commit ourselves to adopting, supporting and furthering gender equity and equal opportunity plans and programmes to prevent violence against women as part of our national policies, so that women may develop their potential and participate on an equal footing in all aspects of public and private life and in decision-making in all spheres and at all levels.

43. In Ibero-America, children and adolescents make up the majority of the population. Many of them are born into poverty and exclusion, a situation that limits their personal skill development and compromises the future of our societies. We

acknowledge that our Governments owe a debt to our young people, and we commit ourselves to continuing to seek solutions that will allow them to take their full place in society and the labour market and participate fully in decision-making in all matters that concern them. We therefore reiterate our firm support for the activities carried out in pursuit of those objectives by the Ibero-American Youth Organization. We commit ourselves to continuing to develop sustainable public policies that will make it possible to meet the goals and targets agreed upon by the Ibero-American countries, particularly with regard to indigenous children and children of African descent, based on the principles of equity and social inclusion, by implementing a system of horizontal technical assistance throughout the region and seeking increased support from international cooperation, in keeping with the international commitment of the developed countries to allocate 0.7 per cent of gross domestic product to official development assistance.

44. We agree that the revolution in information technology opens up greater opportunities for social, economic and political participation. Information technologies are indispensable tools for promoting the economic and social development of our countries. It is important to prevent the information society from creating new forms of exclusion. Reducing the digital gap and developing the infrastructure for connectivity and universal access should be among the fundamental objectives of policies on building the information society. We consider that the Internet should operate under a broad, transparent, participative and democratic form of management in which Governments, international organizations, private enterprise and civil society all participate. We consider that, in addition to taking maximum advantage of these technological innovations, it will also be necessary to avoid new forms of technological exclusion and discrimination by developing cooperation projects in the area of information technologies. We propose to work towards these goals and the promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity at the upcoming World Summit on the Information Society.

45. We are also aware that the protection of personal data is a fundamental right of individuals, and we stress the importance of the Ibero-American regulatory initiatives to protect the privacy of citizens as set forth in the Antigua Declaration, which has resulted in the creation of the Ibero-American Data Protection Network, open to all the countries in our community.

Ibero-American cooperation

1. We reaffirm that cooperation, as stipulated in the Bariloche Agreement on Cooperation in the Framework of the Ibero-American Conference, should be one of the key elements in the ongoing process of building the Ibero-American community as a place for political, economic, social and cultural convergence and inclusion of all segments of our societies.

2. We note the progress in the ratification of the Protocol adopted in Havana establishing the Secretariat for Ibero-American Cooperation (SECIB).

3. We value the important contribution made by the various Ibero-American cooperation programmes (see listed annex) to the development of the countries and the strengthening of the Ibero-American community, and we undertake to share information concerning their scope and results.

4. We reconfirm the mandate given to SECIB to seek additional sources of funding for Ibero-American cooperation programmes and projects from both the private sector and international organizations.

5. We express our satisfaction at the progress achieved by the CIBERAMERICA initiative towards the creation of a virtual Ibero-American community and therefore approve its conversion into a Summit programme, entrusting SECIB with the monitoring and development of the programme's legal and technical aspects, and the inclusion in its portal of, among other contents, a database on best practices in technical cooperation, to be identified by mutual agreement.

6. Recognizing that reading is an effective tool for social inclusion and a basic factor contributing to the social, cultural and economic development of our countries, we are pleased to make the Ibero-American Reading Plan (ILIMITA) a Summit programme.

7. We note in particular the accomplishments of the IBERMEDIA programme during the current year and reiterate our commitment to pursue the programme, in particular by creating an appropriate legal framework that will allow for the realization of the programme's full growth potential.

8. In keeping with the Lima Declaration, we welcome the inclusion of the Unión Iberoamericana de Municipalistas programme for training senior Ibero-American managers and officials in local government and management and the Iberoamérica Emprende programme on the list of Ibero-American Summit projects and note the application of this new approach to Ibero-American cooperation.

9. We acknowledge the work done by the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (Indigenous Peoples' Fund) in accordance with the mandates given at Lima, Peru, and Bávaro, Dominican Republic, and we welcome the presentation of the Executive Report on progress with its restructuring plan. We reaffirm our determination to continue to support the Indigenous Peoples' Fund through various means of contribution, and we invite international cooperation donors to continue to support it.

We welcome the invitation of the Government of Costa Rica and agree to hold the Fourteenth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government in the Republic of Costa Rica in 2004.

We accept with pleasure the invitation of Mr. José María Aznar López, Prime Minister of Spain, to hold the Fifteenth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government in Spain in 2005.

We express our gratitude to President Carlos D. Mesa and the people of Bolivia for the warm hospitality we experienced during the Thirteenth Ibero-American Summit in Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

The heads of State and Government of the Ibero-American countries hereby sign this Declaration in two original versions in the Spanish and Portuguese languages, both texts being equally authentic, at Santa Cruz de la Sierra on 15 November 2003.

(*Signed*) Juan Carlos I de Borbón
King of Spain

(*Signed*) Carlos Mesa Gisbert
President of the Republic of Bolivia

(*Signed*) Néstor Carlos Kirchner
President of the Argentine Republic

(*Signed*) Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

(*Signed*) Ricardo Lagos Escobar
President of the Republic of Chile

(*Signed*) Alvaro Uribe Vélez
President of the Republic of Colombia

(*Signed*) Abel Pacheco de la Espriella
President of the Republic of Costa Rica

(*Signed*) Carlos Lage Dávila
Vice-President of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba

(*Signed*) Lucio Gutiérrez Borbúa
President of the Republic of Ecuador

(*Signed*) Francisco Flores Pérez
President of the Republic of El Salvador

(*Signed*) José María Aznar López
Prime Minister of Spain

(*Signed*) Alfonso Portillo Cabrera
President of the Republic of Guatemala

(*Signed*) Ricardo Maduro Joest
President of the Republic of Honduras

(*Signed*) Vicente Fox Quesada
President of the United Mexican States

(*Signed*) Enrique Bolaños Géyer
President of the Republic of Nicaragua

(*Signed*) Mireya Moscoso Rodríguez
President of the Republic of Panama

(*Signed*) Nicanor Duarte Frutos
President of the Republic of Paraguay

(*Signed*) Alejandro Toledo Manrique
President of the Republic of Peru

(*Signed*) Jorge Fernando Branco de Sampaio
President of the Portuguese Republic

(*Signed*) Manuel Durao Barrosso
Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic

(*Signed*) Rafael Hipólito Mejía Domínguez
President of the Dominican Republic

(*Signed*) Jorge Batlle Ibáñez
President of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay

(*Signed*) Hugo Rafael Chávez Frías
President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

United Nations A/58/608

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 156
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 20 November 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to recall the seminar on the theme "Ratification and implementation of the universal anti-terrorism instruments in the Baltic States", which was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and was held in Vilnius on 6 and 7 November 2003.

In this regard, I have the honour to submit herewith the text of the Chairman's summary of the above-mentioned event (see annex). I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be distributed as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 156.

(*Signed*) Dr. Gediminas **Šerkšnys**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 20 November 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

"RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNIVERSAL ANTI-TERRORISM INSTRUMENTS IN THE BALTIC SEA STATES"

Vilnius, Lithuania, 6-7 November 2003

CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY

On 6-7 November 2003, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) organized together a seminar on the "Ratification and Implementation of the Universal Anti-Terrorism Instruments in the Baltic Sea States". Other international organizations – the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS), the Council of Europe, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) assisted in, and contributed to, the organization of the event.

Experts and representatives of the following states attended the seminar:

- Member states of the CBSS: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, and Sweden;
- Observers of the CBSS: France, Italy, The Netherlands, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and United States;
- Belarus was invited and participated at the seminar as a neighbouring country.

The seminar aimed at providing guidance for the self-assessment of national legislation, based on the provisions of universal anti-terrorism instruments and Security Council resolution 1373. The participants were able to exchange information on the ratification and implementation of these instruments in their respective countries; they also identified common regional trends and challenges.

The Chair summarized the discussions as follows:

In the morning session, the need for continuous efforts of countries in fighting terrorism was emphasized by the host country. It was noted that a framework for action was set by the UN S.C. Resolution 1373 (2001). The host government representative underlined that the countries of the Baltic Sea Region should give due consideration to a regional approach in the prevention of terrorist activities. Improved control of migratory flows was suggested as a possible area for closer regional cooperation.

The representatives of UNODC emphasized that it was essential not only to demonstrate general political commitment by becoming parties to the universal instruments related to the prevention and suppression of international terrorism, but to continue paying attention to the implementation of these legal instruments and other tools against terrorism. UNODC encouraged countries to use its expertise in improving national antiterrorist legislation.

It was noted that there were three main elements in the United Nations' strategy to support global efforts against terrorist activities: *dissuasion* of disaffected groups from embracing terrorism, *denial* of means to carry out terrorist acts and support for broad-based international *cooperation*.

The CBSS Commissioner urged the participants not only to concentrate on vigorous implementation of international legal anti-terrorist norms, but also give due consideration to human rights issues in the legislative process. She suggested that in many cases anti-terrorism legislation might have been adopted too hastily.

Both, UNODC experts and the CBSS Commissioner emphasized the need for greater public awareness raising in the field of anti-terrorism activities.

Experts and representatives of Sweden, Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and France made presentations about their countries' progress in ratifying and implementing the universal anti-terrorism instruments and reported on resulting changes in their national legislation. It was noted that in some countries lack of human and financial resources had repercussions on implementation.

Experts from Sweden and Norway stressed their efforts to incorporate human rights issues in the process of making amendments to their national anti-terrorist laws. An expert from Lithuania raised the question of compliance with the obligation, imposed by the UN S.C. resolution 1373, to freeze all terrorist funds, while respecting Lithuanian national laws. These do not allow the freezing of assets or property for more than 48 hours without launching pre-trial investigation.

The CBSS Commissioner drew the attention of the participating countries to the fact that it was important to create monitoring mechanisms, which take into account human rights concerns.

In the afternoon session, the representative of the International Monetary Fund drew attention to the eight special recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force and the need to criminalize the financing of terrorism, to freeze, seize and confiscate terrorist assets and to cooperate internationally in exchanging information.

The representative of the OSCE emphasized the fact that regional organisations, such as OSCE, are well placed to promote universal anti-terrorism instruments and facilitate international cooperation through specific technical assistance to participating states.

The representative of the Council of Europe stated that his organization strongly supported efforts of national governments towards ratification and implementation of anti-terrorism instruments at the European and at the universal levels through the provision of tailor-made programmes. The Council of Europe welcomed a coordinated approach by international actors in providing technical assistance and expertise to support national governments in this task.

Finally, as an opportunity to continue the dialogue started in Vilnius, both UN ODC and OSCE representatives drew the attention of the participants to the forthcoming 3rd meeting of the Counter Terrorism Committee with regional and sub-regional organizations to be held in Vienna on 12 March 2004 as an occasion to continue efforts at coordination and cooperation in the fight against terrorism.

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 134
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Transfer of buildings to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the note by the Secretary-General on the transfer of buildings to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi (A/58/596). During its consideration of the matter, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General.

2. The Government of Italy has indicated its willingness to transfer to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi five additional buildings with a total floor space of 1,760 square metres. The buildings are located within the premises of the Logistics Base and would be accommodating the assets of the strategic deployment stocks and other Logistics Base requirements. The existing Logistics Base building and the five additional buildings would be used to house the Logistics Base headquarters, its Air Operations Unit and the staff canteen, and for the storage of assets and materials (see A/58/596, para. 1).

3. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that, for comparison purposes only, the market rental value of the equivalent space has been estimated at $561,715 per annum, and the alternative of constructing containerized offices would require an additional amount of $985,671. The renovation and maintenance costs of the five buildings would be borne by the United Nations at a cost of some $140,000 for renovations and, thereafter, about $15,000 per annum for maintenance. The appropriation for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 for the Logistics Base would cover the additional costs for that period (ibid., para. 2). As the acceptance of the buildings would involve additional financial liability for the United Nations in respect of the cost of their maintenance, the approval of the General Assembly is sought, consistent with financial regulation 3.11 (ibid., para. 3).

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4. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve the acceptance of five additional buildings pledged by the Government of Italy in support of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi.**

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 59
Strengthening of the United Nations system

Improvements to the current process of planning and budgeting

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the note by the Secretary-General on improvements to the current process of planning and budgeting (A/58/600). During its consideration of the note, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarifications. The Advisory Committee had a limited amount of time to consider the information contained in the note.

2. The information contained in the note was initially provided to the Fifth Committee as supplementary information for its informal consultations. Pursuant to a request made by the Committee at its 19th meeting, on 17 November 2003, the note was formally submitted, through the Advisory Committee, for the consideration of the Fifth Committee (see ibid., para. 1). The Advisory Committee considered it on 21 November 2003 on the basis of an advance text; the official version, translated into all languages, was not yet available.

3. According to the note, the information contained therein "relates to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee" (see ibid., para. 2). The Committee points out that, while the note attempts to address a number of concerns raised in its report on this question (A/58/7/Add.5, sect. I), a number of other concerns have not been dealt with, as indicated below.

4. The note by the Secretary-General contains a "mock-up" of the strategic framework and of the budget outline and also includes a summary of decisions being sought on the proposals of the Secretary-General regarding improvements to the current process of planning and budgeting. In this connection, the Committee recalls that it had recommended that the Secretary-General be requested to submit mock-ups for consideration by the Assembly "based on such guidance as the General Assembly may wish to give with regard to the proposals of the Secretary-General" (see ibid., para. 7). The Committee notes that the mock-ups have been submitted

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without the benefit of the guidance of the General Assembly, including on the issue of replacing the present four-year medium-term plan with a biennial programme plan, as well as the proposed revision in the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (see ibid., para. 6).

5. The two mock-ups now under consideration have been "based on current documents to illustrate the very limited changes in format that are being proposed as a consequence of the synchronization of the planning cycle with that of the budget outline and the programme budget" (A/58/600, para. 3).

6. The Advisory Committee notes that the question of the timing of the consideration of the biennial programme plan and budget outline has not been addressed in the note by the Secretary-General. The Committee recalls its view that it would be preferable if the budget outline could be prepared after the review and approval of such plan instrument as the General Assembly may wish to establish and its request that the timing of the submission and consideration of both parts of the "strategic framework" be clarified in the report containing the mock-ups (see A/58/7/Add.5, para. 12). **The Committee reiterates its request that the Secretariat clarify the question of the timing of the consideration of the biennial programme plan and the budget outline.**

7. The proposals of the Secretary-General also represent an attempt to respond to the request of the General Assembly contained in paragraph 32 of its resolution 57/300 of 20 December 2002 that he submit a more detailed proposal at the fifty-eighth session for a shorter, more strategic medium-term plan that is linked to the budget outline (see A/58/600, para. 4). **The Advisory Committee's preliminary review of the mock-up of the biennial programme plan for programme 5, Legal affairs, shows that the mock-up is not, in fact, any shorter than the current four-year medium-term plan for the same programme. Moreover, the structure of the subprogrammes of the proposed biennial plan is identical to that of the current medium-term plan. The Committee is not in a position, therefore, to conclude, on the basis of the mock-up, that the biennial programme plan would be shorter or more strategic than the current medium-term plan. The Committee requests that the Secretary-General clearly identify ways in which the content and structure could be modified to achieve a streamlined plan.**

8. **Moreover, the Advisory Committee recalls that it had requested the Secretary-General to clarify how the medium-term plan could be made an instrument of policy rather than a listing of activities (see A/58/7/Add.5, para. 9). The Committee points out that this request has not been addressed in the note. As yet there has still been no analysis of the problems, in the current budget process, in allocating resources according to priorities in the plan and outline documents.**

9. **Moreover, the Advisory Committee points out that the note does not address its request that clarification be provided with regard to the proposed measures to improve the current process of programme planning, monitoring and evaluation, including a modified biennial programme performance report and improved format and timing of evaluation reports (see ibid., para. 14).**

10. **Taking into account the information contained in paragraph 5 (b) of the note and paragraph 25 of the report of the Secretary-General on this question (A/58/395 and Corr.1), the Committee is not certain as to the level of detail on**

outputs and resource requirements that would be made available to the Member States in the budget fascicles and to the Advisory Committee through supplementary information. The Committee is of the view that the Secretary-General should provide additional clarification on this issue.

11. Should the General Assembly wish to proceed to take decisions on the proposals contained in paragraph 5 of the note by the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee will provide further comments and recommendations when it takes up the plan and the outline. Since the changes now being proposed are minimal, there will be only minimal consequential amendments to the relevant financial and planning regulations.

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Security Council

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda items 28, 37, 59, 60, 109 and 156

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

The situation in the Middle East

Strengthening of the United Nations system

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

International drug control

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 21 November 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of India and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit the Declaration of the Russian Federation and the Republic of India on Global Challenges and Threats to International Security and Stability, which was adopted during the visit of the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, to the Russian Federation on 12 November 2003 (see annex).

We would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under items 28, 37, 59, 60, 109 and 156 of the agenda of its fifty-eighth session and as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vijay K. **Nambiar**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 21 November 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of India and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/Russian]

Declaration of the Russian Federation and the Republic of India on Global Challenges and Threats to International Security and Stability, the Kremlin, Moscow, November 12, 2003

The Russian Federation and the Republic of India,

GUIDED by the lofty aims and principles of the Charter of the United Nations Organization,

BASED on the provisions of the United Nations Millennium Declaration of September 8, 2000 on the collective responsibility of states for the removal of threats to international peace and security and for the affirmation of the principles of human dignity, equality and justice on the global level,

REFERRING to UN General Assembly Resolution 57/145 ("Responding to global threats and challenges") of December 16, 2002,

RECOGNIZING globalization and the interdependence of the world as a natural process of the evolution of mankind giving rise to both new opportunities and new threats,

TAKING into account the fact that the uneven distribution of the benefits and costs of globalization gives rise to a growing inequality among the countries of the world,

EXPRESSING RESOLVE to cooperate in countering the global challenges and threats brought on by international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, trans-national organized crime, illicit drug trafficking, money laundering, the degradation of the environment and the inequality in development,

PROCEEDING from an urgent need to consolidate the efforts of the international community under the aegis of the UN to remove these global challenges and threats,

CONSCIOUS of their common values and responsibility as multinational democratic states,

STRIVING to continue to cooperate closely in ensuring universal peace and progress,

REAFFIRMING their commitments under the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation Between the Russian Federation and the Republic of India of January 28, 1993, Moscow Declaration on the Protection of the Interests of Multinational States of June 30, 1994, the Declaration on Strategic Partnership Between the Russian Federation and the Republic of India of October 5, 2000, the Delhi Declaration on Further Consolidation of Strategic Partnership between the Russian Federation and the Republic of India of December 4, 2002, the Moscow Declaration of the Russian Federation and the Republic of India on International Terrorism of November 6, 2001, and the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of India on Cooperation in the Fight Against Terrorism of December 4, 2002,

HEREBY DECLARE:

The Russian Federation and India recognize that to advance universal peace, security and stability a dialogue, consultations and cooperation of concerned countries are needed. As strategic partners, the Russian Federation and India reaffirm their commitment to cooperation at the bilateral and multilateral levels on strategic issues for the purpose of shaping a universal and effective system of counteraction against the global challenges and threats of the 21st century, with the UN playing the leading role.

The Russian Federation and India as major and influential democracies of the world are called upon to play a weighty role here. Both states are unswervingly working to maximally bring democratic principles into international affairs. The Russian Federation and India are certain that the creation of a future international order based on multipolarity should be determined by collective and multilateral, not unilateral processes. Both countries are for building a unified, equitable and democratic world pattern and a comprehensive system of collective security based on the supremacy of law and international norms and on mutual trust, reciprocal benefit, equality and cooperation.

The Russian Federation and India stress the key role of the United Nations in solving major international problems. The United Nations can and should be adapted to existing realities so as to preserve and enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. The Russian Federation and India presume that UN reform should envisage the earliest possible enlargement of the UN Security Council. The prevention and peaceful settlement of conflicts in accordance with the UN Charter and international law should remain one of the major lines of activity of the United Nations.

* * *

The Russian Federation and India are convinced that greater interaction and mutual respect between various societies and cultures will contribute both to the enrichment of these cultures and to the strengthening of harmony and security in the world. In the era of globalization that has set in a genuine multipolarity - in its political and economic, as well as social and cultural manifestation - can be ensured only by way of the preservation of diversity. The Russian Federation and India also resolutely declare that in today's diverse and manifold world community there is no room for any extremist ideology or intolerance. They will make every effort to counter all the forms of extremism, including religious extremism, which has engendered a breeding ground of terrorism in their common neighborhood.

The Russian Federation and India are united in the struggle against the evil of international terrorism. They are actively cooperating between themselves and with other countries on the antiterrorist front. Both countries resolutely declare that international terrorists, under whatever slogans they may act, never will manage to bring the world to its knees.

The Russian Federation and India regard the following as urgent and major steps to avert effectively and everywhere the threat of international terrorism:

- the creation in the world of an atmosphere of total nonacceptance of terrorism and the absolute rejection of all of its forms;

- a consistent and uncompromising approach to terrorism, the eradication of the practice of "double standards";

- the prevention of financing for terrorist activities;

- the effective implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1373 against those who provide support to terrorists, including financial, connive at them or grant them shelter for the commission of acts of cross-border terrorism;

- the strengthening of confidence among the members of the antiterrorist coalition, including by due consideration for the interests of each other and by conducting the fight against terrorism strictly on the basis of the rules of international law and the principles of the UN Charter;

- perfecting the national and international legal base of counteraction against terrorism, ensuring a truly universal character of existing antiterrorist conventions, and completing as soon as possible the elaboration of the draft treaties at the UN, including the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism, submitted by India, and the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, submitted by the Russian Federation;

- developing cooperation to deprive terrorists of access to weapons of mass destruction, their delivery means and materials and technologies for their production;

- perfecting the mechanisms for legal assistance and extradition with the aim of ensuring the inevitability of punishment for terrorist crimes;

- the provision of favorable conditions for the coexistence of various religions, cultures and civilizations with emphasis on greater understanding and respect between them, especially on the thought that terrorism cannot be identified with any particular religion or ethnic group.

* * *

The Russian Federation and India are concerned at the illicit trade in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors assuming ever more menacing proportions. Drastic and effective measures are necessary on the part of the international community to counter this threat, especially because the drug business serves as a financial base of international terrorism. Both countries are taking specific practical steps to fight the illicit trade in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, primarily in their common neighborhood.

The Russian Federation and India presume that the task of strengthening multilateral cooperation in the combating of the global threat of drugs is extremely urgent today. The Russian Federation and India underscore the intensive need to develop under the aegis of the UN a comprehensive strategy for an effective solution of this problem and reaffirm their strong disposition to cooperate closely with the United Nations and other international organizations under the UN Drug Control Program.

* * *

The Russian Federation and India support the work of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan on national reconstruction and express their solidarity with all the efforts of the international community to assist peace, stability, national reconciliation and an economic revival of Afghanistan. Of great importance is the implementation of the provisions of the Bonn Agreements on the timeframe for next year's democratic elections. The Russian Federation and India firmly believe that Afghanistan should become a peaceful, strong, prosperous, integral and independent state, free from external interference and living in peace and harmony with its neighbors.

* * *

The Russian Federation and India are convinced that a specific time plan of action should be adopted under the aegis of the UN for the speediest restoration of the state sovereignty of Iraq, the stabilization of the political and humanitarian situation in the country and the ensuring of its economic growth with broad international participation.

* * *

The Russian Federation and India call for not allowing the implementation of the Road Map for settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to be scuttled. Failure to implement the Road Map may result in that the situation both in Israel and Palestine and in the Middle East as a whole will get out of control. This may threaten grave consequences not only for the region, but also for the entire world.

* * *

The Russian Federation and India support the efforts of concerned countries and the international community, directed towards a peaceful solution of the nuclear problem on the Korean Peninsula and the ensuring of its denuclearized status, including the continuation of six-way talks in Beijing and the finding of mutually acceptable solution, as well as for the further development of inter-Korean dialogue and cooperation.

* * *

The Russian Federation and India are convinced that the success of the fight against present-day global challenges and threats largely depends on a proper solution of social and economic problems, such as the eradication of poverty, mass unemployment, illiteracy and discrimination on racial, ethnic and religious grounds. Both countries proceed from the necessity to assist an even and sustainable development of the world economy to attain prosperity for all states. One way to this is seen by them in providing access for the majority of humanity to high technologies, the driving force of globalization. The wider will be access to the achievements and benefits of scientific and technological progress, the higher will be the prosperity of a greater number of people, the smaller will be the gap between the developed and developing parts of the world, the more it will be possible to neutralize the causes for conflicts.

The Russian Federation and India, important partners in the field of science and technology, possess a strong potential for the joint elaboration of alternative technologies. They are convinced that the multipolarity of the high technology world could help enormously to strengthen the political and economic multipolarity of the modern world.

* * *

The Russian Federation and India declare that, based on their long-standing relations as reliable, predictable and responsible strategic partners, they are committed to the quest for effective and long-term solutions and proper answers to the above-mentioned challenges and threats to mankind, relying in their efforts upon the UN Charter and the principles of international law.

United Nations

A/58/612

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 10
Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

Letter dated 3 November 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

At the opening of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, I announced my intention to establish a High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change. The Panel was to be tasked with examining the major threats and challenges the world faces in the broad field of peace and security, including economic and social issues insofar as they relate to peace and security, and making recommendations for the elements of a collective response. The terms of reference of the Panel are annexed for your information (see annex I).

I am pleased to inform you that I have now appointed a group of eminent people to serve on the Panel (see annex II for the full list of panellists). Anand Panyarachun, former Prime Minister of Thailand, has agreed to chair the group, which hopes to hold its first meeting in late November.

(Signed) Kofi A. Annan

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Annex I

Terms of reference of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change

1. The past year has shaken the foundations of collective security and undermined confidence in the possibility of collective responses to our common problems and challenges. It has also brought to the fore deep divergences of opinion on the range and nature of the challenges we face, and are likely to face in the future.

2. The aim of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change is to recommend clear and practical measures for ensuring effective collective action, based on a rigorous analysis of future threats to peace and security, an appraisal of the contribution that collective action can make and a thorough assessment of existing approaches, instruments and mechanisms, including the principal organs of the United Nations.

3. The Panel is not being asked to formulate policies on specific issues, nor on the United Nations role in specific places. Rather, it is being asked to provide a new assessment of the challenges ahead, and to recommend the changes that will be required if these challenges are to be met effectively through collective action.

4. Specifically, the Panel will:

(a) Examine today's global threats and provide an analysis of future challenges to international peace and security. While there may continue to exist a diversity of perceptions on the relative importance of the various threats facing particular Member States on an individual basis, it is important to find an appropriate balance at a global level. It is also important to understand the connections between different threats;

(b) Identify clearly the contribution that collective action can make in addressing these challenges;

(c) Recommend the changes necessary to ensure effective collection action, including but not limited to a review of the principal organs of the United Nations.

5. The Panel's work is confined to the field of peace and security, broadly interpreted. That is, it should extend its analysis and recommendations to other issues and institutions, including economic and social, only insofar as they have a direct bearing on future threats to peace and security.

Annex II

Composition of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change

Chairman

Anand Panyarachun (Thailand), former Prime Minister of Thailand

Members

Robert Badinter (France), Member of the French Senate and former Minister of Justice of France

João Clemente Baena Soares (Brazil), former Secretary-General of the Organization of American States

Gro Harlem Brundtland (Norway), former Prime Minister of Norway and Director-General of the World Health Organization

David Hannay (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), former Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations and United Kingdom Special Envoy to Cyprus

Mary Chinery-Hesse (Ghana), Vice-Chairman, National Development Planning Commission of Ghana and former Deputy Director-General, International Labour Organization

Gareth Evans (Australia), President of the International Crisis Group and former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia

Enrique Iglesias (Uruguay), President of the Inter-American Development Bank

Amre Moussa (Egypt), Secretary-General of the League of Arab States

Satish Nambiar (India), former Lieutenant-General in the Indian Army and Force Commander of the United Nations Protection Force

Sadako Ogata (Japan), former United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Yevgeny Primakov (Russian Federation), former Prime Minister of the Russian Federation

Qian Qichen (China), former Vice-Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of China

Nafis Sadiq (Pakistan), former Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund

Salim Ahmed Salim (United Republic of Tanzania), former Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity

Brent Scowcroft (United States of America), former Lieutenant-General in the United States Air Force and United States National Security Adviser